

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:446
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2001
UTILISATION OF VACANT RAILWAY LAND
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have vast areas of land which is not used for any constructive purpose;
- (b) if so, whether the Railways have any policy to allow NGOs and local governments to use the vacant railway land for greening the area;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Railways have made any assessment regarding use of vacant railway land;
- (e) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (f) the other measures taken to protect the railway land from encroachment ?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 446 SH. A BRAHMANAIAH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 23.8.01 REGARDING UTILISATION OF VACANT RAILWAY LAND.

(a): No, Sir. Railways have about 16,745 Hectare of land, which is vacant at present but which is required for future developmental projects.

(b): No, Sir. However, such requests are considered on merit on case to case basis.

(c): Does not arise.

(d) and (e): Wherever feasible vacant railway land is put to short-term uses like afforestation, grow more food programmes, temporary licensing for purposes related to railway working etc.

(f): Other measures to protect vacant land include putting up of boundary walls and fencing, prompt removal of encroachments as soon as these are noticed to be coming up, and greater vigilance in this direction.